



THE MORNING NEWS

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Thursday, May 8, 2014

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Nicolas Store building will be Aruba's newest restored monument



Oranjestad -- Last year the Aruba Monument Funding Foundation purchased the Nicolas Store project in San Nicolas for the express purpose of restoring the landmark building to be deployed by the Community Museum. Presently the museum is located with the former B.J. Arends building close by. It has always been the plan for the Community Museum to expand and display more of the enormous inventory, with international standards. Not only is the building filled with fascinating artifacts from the former Antiquities Museum, but the people have come forward to provide interesting stories of the history of San Nicolas and the items on display. The purpose was always to present an interactive experience with personal, insightful information of Aruba, its people and culture.

The Nicolas Store is in the process of being an officially recognized monument by the Aruba Monument Bureau, enabling the foundation to obtain the necessary funding for the project from the National Restoration Funds. This adds it to the list of structures under the

protection of the Monument Bureau, of which there are presently more than 30, but to which they would hope to add many more.

The official declaration of landmark status will be signed next week, and after six weeks it will officially be affirmed monument. This is the first such monument in private hands obtained by the Monument Funding Foundation. Now the work will commence to restore the building to its original glory.

The Nicolas Store project is a key indicator of the vision of the government for Aruba and development of under the administration of the Minister of Tourism, Transport, Primary Sector and Culture, Otmar Oduber. Minister Oduber has clearly stated the potential to develop San Nicolas as a second tourism capital. They envision the eastern town as a "Cultural Heritage Center" where a large part of the attraction will be the authentic and traditional Caribbean ambiance. Towards this goal, the Nicolas Store as a landmark building and museum had incalculable value to the Aruban people, their cultural heritage, the community and visitors.

Press group condemns photographer's arrest in Colombia

MIAMI (AFP) - A media advocacy group yesterday condemned the Labor Day arrest of a press photographer in Colombia, calling on authorities to investigate the incident.

Esteban Vanegas, a photographer for the El Colombiano and Q'hubo newspapers, was detained last Thursday while covering Labor Day protests in the northwestern city of Medellin. He was charged with attacking an official and released later that day, according to the Inter American Press Association (IAPA).

But the allegations against him were

"denied by eye witnesses and shown to be untrue on videos taken by other journalists who were at the scene," the Miami-based group said in a statement.

"The detention could be seen as a disproportionate and unjustified action against press freedom," said Claudio Paolillo, chairman of IAPA's freedom of the press and information committee.

Three other journalists, who like Vanegas had identified themselves as members of the media, were also attacked that day, IAPA said.

NEW YORK -- Fast-food workers from around the world stage a protest in front of a McDonald's restaurant, campaigning for higher pay, in New York, May 7, 2014. Fast-food workers from a dozen countries held a demonstration to announce a strike in the US on May 15, 2014 and demonstration at fast-food restaurants around the world, demanding a 15 USD per hour minimum wage for workers in the US.

(AFP PHOTO)



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TODAY'S WEATHER



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Sunset: 6:53 pm



LOCAL NEWS

Aruba Tourism industry offers a tremendous opportunity for students with a workshop organized by SITE/Florida & Caribbean

ORANJESTAD — On May 18, Aruba will host the 3rd SITE/Florida & Caribbean workshop; the first time it is being conducted on Aruba. The event, to be held at the Marriott Resort & Casino, is organized by the Aruba Tourism Authority, Eco Destination Management Services and Red Sail Sports.

Objective of the workshop is to give participants the opportunity to network and educate themselves in the MICE (Meetings, Incentives, and Conferences & Exhibitions) industry. The SITE organization consists of professionals in the business and commerce world, in which travel is a primary component. The event is especially advantageous for islanders in the field who do not have the opportunity to attend such events abroad. Participants can be anyone working in tourism, such as

hotel staff, destination management companies, staff of a water sport and activities services, restaurant owners and staff, all tourism organizations, hotel associations, event organizers and independent entrepreneurs connect to the tourism industry.

During the workshop, participants will learn about tourism and will receive the necessary tools on how to best serve incentive groups, which can be very useful to insuring a successful operation.

Three different speakers will talk on specific educational topics which are practiced in sustainability, incentive travel and 'green meetings.' During the workshop they will also share the latest incentive travel and destination trend.

Participation fee is US\$100 per person which includes breakfast and lunch. Students get a special fee of



only US\$ 35 to encourage youngsters to participate and enrich their knowledge in the tourism industry. For inscription go to the website

<http://sitefloridacaribbean.tixclix.com/556>; for more information or e-mail admin@sitefloridacaribbean.org

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Colombian Emeralds International grand unveiling of Diamonds and Emeralds collection

ORANJESTAD -- Renown International Jewelers Swiss-owned-Colombian Emerald International established in over 70 locations throughout the Caribbean – Tax free, dutyfree shopping such as Antigua & Barbados, Curacao, St Lucia, Grenada and of course our beloved Island of Aruba, takes great pleasure in inviting Aruba and all its visitors for a unforgettable evening where they will unveil their extraordinary New Collection of Diamonds and Emeralds available in all our store locations.

Everyone is welcome to visit any of the Colombian Emerald boutiques and request at no cost their invitation and raffle ticket to participate and have the opportunity to win prizes valued over 800 dollars in merchandise. The night will be accompanied by the company's spoke person the very handsome and jewel expert Diego Galante. Delicious refreshing Emerald Mojitos will be flowing

throughout the evening. Visitors to the stores have the chance of purchasing most products at incredibly reduced prices for one night only.

The event will take place on:

□ May 8th at Radisson Colombian Emeralds International from 6:30pm-7:30pm

□ Marriott Colombian Emeralds International from 8:00pm-9:00pm

□ As there is a lot to see, we give you an additional opportunity to make your sales or ad to your layaway on May 9th at Renaissance from 6:30-7:30pm.

Reminding the public the mother's day will also be that weekend and it's the perfect opportunity to find that ideal gift for the mother in your life. For more information please contact us at Colombian Emeralds offices and stores or visit our website and treat yourself to some eye candy with our vast and unique jewelry collection at www.colombianemeralds.com

LOCAL NEWS**DIMAS should be more specific on changes****Canadian Tourist is not pleased with the change of rules in their stay**

Oranjestad, Aruba: There is an unpleasant situation among elder tourists that are staying in Aruba taking place. Lately, DIMAS sent a press release to all media on March 13th, 2014 that has many tourists confused. Nevertheless, Dave Oglive, a Canadian tourist staying on the island, draw close to Chris Dammers, member of the Aruban Parliament, and spoke about his concern. Mr. Dammers acknowledged talking to the tourist and has this problem at heart and is currently seeking the real truth behind this new policy.

In short time, Mr. Dammers explained that this policy is not applicable for the tourists visiting our island. "This change of policy is valid for tourists from Latin America that are requesting to stay more than 6 months on the island," explained Dammers. Nevertheless, the press release of DIMAS did an impact on the elder tourists that are visiting Aruba on regular basis to relax and spending money in doing so.



Chris Dammers

The Aruban Parliament will handle with Minister of Naturalization & Tourism in order to explain this policy accordingly by not having any confusion on the touristic level. Adding, Oglive is very mad with the service given at DIMAS with no feedback and without communication whatsoever on this matter. When presenting at DIMAS, meeting was arranged but did cancel several times when the day gets near. DIMAS facility is not adequate to handle such matter in a professional way. Nevertheless, this situation will be taken care of with the concerned Minister to reach a positive solution in regard to our tourism.

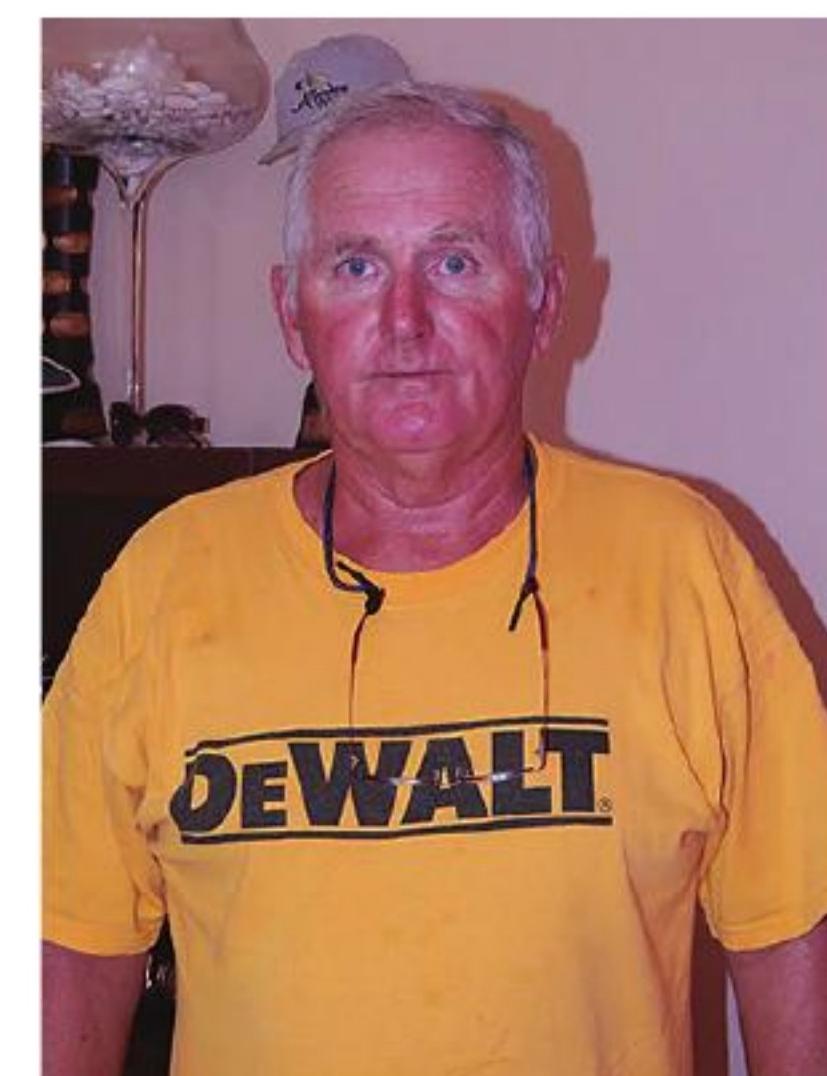
DIMAS Policy Restrictions is an obstacle for many tourists**Aruba will no longer be the Number One Destination Choice for many tourists**

Oranjestad, Aruba: Many tourists avoid the cold weather at home and come to Aruba for 30 and some even for 90 days, to enjoy the nice ambiance of the island with friendly people and great weather that everybody loves.

"DIMAS has a new policy that impacts different countries without any explanation and or services for assistance" explained Dave Oglive, Canadian resident, who has been coming to Aruba for more than 9 years consecutively. On April 1st, DIMAS has enforced a new policy which indicates that all guests must extend their stay in Aruba after 30 days. This extension may be grand but unfortunately it can also be denied to tourists visiting our island for many years.

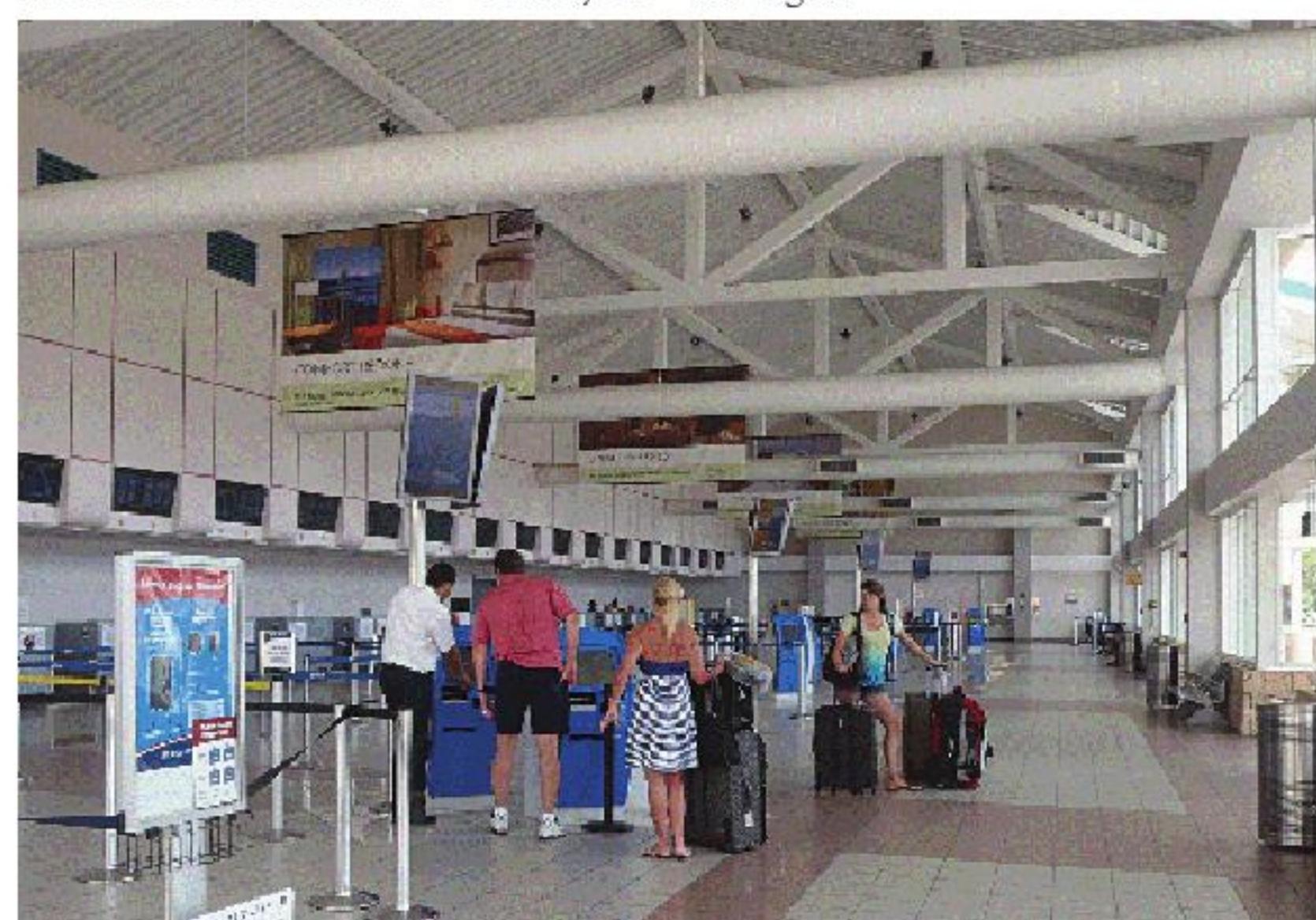
"I am retired and always had travelled to Aruba for four months. The implication lies when you come to Aruba there is no guarantee that you can stay for 4 months, so you have to buy a ticket for 30 days and while on vacation you will be forced to go to DIMAS if you want to extend your staying. If it gets approved after 30 days, I am forced again to buy a ticket for only 30 days and then would have to go back to the airlines to change the ticket. The average price for changing a ticket is 331 dollar per ticket, that would be 662 dollars for my wife and I which will definitely not going to happen. It's easier going to another island where this policy is not in effect," explained Mr. Oglive.

DIMAS also introduced an agreement for the tourists which is finding an Aruban guarantor to sign for their staying on the island. "If DIMAS grants our staying, we need to find someone that will be responsible for us. I spend 20,000 dollars for the 3 months in Aruba and I have two friends who spends 15,000 dollars each which totals to 50,000 dollars and we certainly do



not need or want anyone to be responsible for us as we know how to take care of ourselves. We are snowbirds, we want to avoid the winter, which is more than 30 days, and we are retired from the air force, we are not looking for a job in Aruba, we are not looking to immigrate to Aruba at all, we only want to stay and have a pleasant time," added Mr. Oglive.

The focus for this policy is mainly to slow down the amount of immigration of illegal workers, finding jobs or homes for their family from places far worse than Aruba. Nevertheless, by implementing this policy they did not do enough research to find out what the impact would be on other type of person that frequently visits Aruba. "Next year we will go to Antigua for 120 days without any problem because I cannot visit Aruba anymore" concluded Mr. Oglive.

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LOCAL NEWS

Proposed regional health regulations would elevate the quality of tourism for all



Minister of Tourism, John Maginley of Antigua, and CTO Gail Henry

ORANJESTAD - For the first time, Aruba played host to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) annual congress, which took place from May 1 through 3 in Oranjestad. An enormous number of issues were addressed, but the main theme of this year's congress was chronic illnesses and the toll they would eventually take on population, health services and the stressed economies of small island nations.

One presentation that was of particular interest was the officially launching of a collaborative effort by CARPHA and the Caribbean Tourism Association, CTO, to set health standards, in both regulations and procedures, throughout a region that most economies are, at the very least, 50% dependent on tourism. A number of very important advocates were present at the launch, including the Premier of the Turks & Caicos Island, Dr. Rufus Ewing and the Minister of Tourism of Antigua and Barbuda, John Maginley, the latter particularly well known for being active and vocal on the matter for several years. As a former Minister of Health for his country, Maginley is well acquainted with the challenges in both sectors.

All present expressed their deep concern for elevating the health standards for not only tourists to the region, but the multitude of those working directly in tourism, and the impact of having a disease imported to an island by someone on vacation. This is something that health and tourism agencies have to consider and confront, with plans in place to prevent widespread outbreaks, and how to handle the situation when one occurs.

Dr. Lisa Indar Coordinator for Tourism and Health for CARPHA, outlined the challenges and the controls that the two agencies would hope to see enacted to control such incidents, as well as food service, sewage and waste disposal and safe water source standardization and regulations.

The main goal is "To improve health, safety, quality and sustainability of the Caribbean tourism industry and thereby contribute to the industry being more competitive, resilient and sustainable," she explained. Their strategy is an "Integrated Health, Safety and Environment management approach of combining training, surveillance, monitoring and response, standards implementation and research to address the critical link between health and tourism."

Some of their main objectives include

- Provide timely alerts of health, environmental and social events to support health monitoring efforts and stimulate a rapid and coordinated response

- Implement food and environmental safety, training and certification
- To establish credible and affordable regional certification and recognition system for improving health, safety and environmental quality in the tourism sector
- To promote a healthy workforce and reduce avoidable health cost to employers
- To increase awareness and promote mutual understanding, partnership and collaboration at national and regional levels between tourism, health and environmental stakeholders to address tourism and health as a joint priority
- To develop partnerships, networks, resource mobilization and business strategies for sustainability of the tourism and health program

Locally generated issues regarding food and water-borne diseases are the most common cause of illness to Caribbean travelers resulting in \$250 million in revenue losses from 2000 until 2005, alone. Among them are food and water-borne sickness caused by the Norovirus, Salmonella, Shigella, Giardia Staphylococcus and E. coli. Vector borne diseases such as Dengue have been on the rise and incidents of respiratory illnesses such as Legionnaires' Disease and flu strains such as H1N1 "Swine Flu" have caused damaging headlines and dilemmas for health and tourism officials.

Regarding such issues, it is important to note that 91% of the LAC population have access to safe drinking water, but only 24% is quality controlled. 77% have adequate excreta and liquid waste disposal, but many are obsolete and pollute the valuable coastal environment. "Beach and coastal water quality are being seriously degraded by uncontrolled dumping of solid waste and litter on beaches or inland," explained Dr. Indar.

What the CARPHA/CTO collaboration proposes is the implementation and enforcement of a "core set of credible and affordable Caribbean-wide Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) "clean and green" Standards, Certification and Recognition System. Minister Maginley pointed out that such organizations as Green Globe, which is a private company, and the certification they offer is profit-based. If resorts can afford to pay their fee, they can attain a Green Globe certification. Smaller, perhaps family owned operations, however, which may richly deserve the recognition, cannot afford it. A publicly organized system of certification would be affordable to all, and will also provide potential travelers a standard by which to make their choices for destination, accommodations, cruise ships, activities and dining. It would be a win/win situation for all involved in tourism, from the operations providing services, the government agencies attempting to regulate them and insure safety for all, to the consumers and employees.

How long it would take such measures to become official practices is anyone guess. Standards and certification could be set through the CARICOM Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ) or a special branch dedicated specifically to the task. The lists of those certified would be published on the CTO, CHTA and CTDC websites with links to international tourism and health websites. That such standards exist and are adhered to would be widely promoted in travel seminars, to agents and on YouTube, thus promoting safer travel and sustainable tourism for the region.

La Vista Restaurant is ready to spoil all moms with a special Sunday brunch



PALM BEACH - La Vista Restaurant invites all moms to come celebrate Mother's Day with a special brunch on Sunday May 11th.

The brunch offers a wide variety of food selections, complimentary mimosas and champagne and live music entertainment to make all moms feel extra special.

The Mother's Day brunch offers a variety of food selections to enjoy; omelet station, garlic spiked prime rib, peel and eat shrimp, keshi yena, crab claws, pasta station, smoked salmon display, grouper in tomato basil sauce and delicious salads of all kinds. In addition the buffet offers fresh fruit smoothies and a delectable dessert station with a chocolate

fountain and much more.

The wide-ranging brunch starts at 7:00 am and will continue until 2:00 pm and can be enjoyed at a price of \$54.95 per person. Kids between 6 and 12 years eat for half of the price and kids 5 years and under eat free. For reservations call La Vista at 520 6601.

La Vista is located at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino and offers a kids corner, a lounge bar, indoor as well as outdoor seating areas where you can enjoy the fresh breeze of the ocean and a magnificent view of Aruba's marvelous beach. The staff of La Vista is ready to spoil all moms with a special Mother's Day in a special way.

Holiday Inn Aruba Resort completes renovation project

PALMBEACH -- The Holiday Inn Aruba Resort has completed a \$20 million renovation project, the property announced this week.

The nearly 600-room InterContinental Hotels Group property, which is located on the island's Palm Beach, underwent changes that included upgrades to its guest rooms, lobby and landscaping, along with a new Palm Bar and other changes.

"Strengthening IHG's presence in Aruba remains key for our business as we focus on growing our portfolio in top resort markets," said Alvaro Diago, COO for Latin America and the Caribbean and IGH. "Through IHG's significant renovation coupled with the oceanfront location and resort-style amenities at the Holiday Inn Resort Aruba - Beach Resort and Casino, we have further positioned this resort to provide our guests with a memorable vacation experience as one of the best resorts on the island."

The property's guest rooms now have 37-inch flat-screen LED TVs, new carpeting and bedding.

"With the latest enhancements to the property, we look forward to showcasing all of the new upgrades that the hotel has to offer guests and allowing them to continue to have a unique resort experience," said Heather Baisley, senior vice president for Americas at Holiday Inn Brand Family.

LOCAL NEWS

Construction of New FBO facility to start soon at Sint Maarten Airport

SIMPSON BAY, St. Maarten—With the demolition works of the Fire Department building at the Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM) now completed, a new phase has been reached, which will facilitate the start of the construction of a new, state of the art Fixed Base Operations (FBO) facility at the same location.

The new FBO facility is urgently needed since, as noted by Michel Hyman, SXM's Operations Manager, "every year there is an increase in requests to park private jets at SXM ... unfortunately due to limited space, we can only accommodate so much and no more." He said the limited space has forced SXM "to be more creative, of course, without compromising safety and security, which are the main pillars of our operations."

SXM is a leader in General Aviation in the Caribbean and to continue to grow its market share, it has decided to expand its current FBO facilities with the construction of an ultra-modern building and more parking space.

This constitutes an integral part of the Capital Improvement Program of SXM, which includes among other projects, the rehabilitation of the runway, and the relocation and construction of various facilities to improve the efficiency of the Airport and to provide for future growth.

A St. Maarten company won the bid to carry out the demolition of the Government Fire station. The company began work on March 28, 2014 and concluded its task by April 8. The next step is the soil investigation, which will be carried



An artist's impression of the new, state-of-the-art FBO building. (SXM photo)

out for the new FBO building. This project falls within the scope of the Capital Improvement Program

of SXM being financed by part of the loan obtained on the international financial market toward the end of 2012.

Prime Minister Sarah Wescot-Williams had signed an agreement on behalf of government with the Princess Juliana International Airport operating company (PJIAC) for the relocation of the Fire Department.

The signing ceremony was held in February at the Public Fire Department in Cay Hill.

At the time, the Prime Minister, who described the agreement as "beneficial to all parties" had recalled how it was one year ago that SXM had submitted the letter requesting the transfer of the Public Fire Department at the airside of the airport. The decree authorizing the PM to sign this relocation and use agreement with SXM became effective only on February 4, 2014.

Mrs. Wescot-Williams said Government had long intended to have a substation for the public fire de-

partment "over the hill" which she said is "extremely important for the services of the Fire Department."

The agreement allowed SXM to demolish the existing airside public fire department building in order to start work on the construction of its new FBO facility.

SXM will build a new facility, which will house on the airside the SXM Fire Station and on the landside a substation for the Public Fire Station. Government will have the right of use of this substation free of charge.

The substation will also be equipped to house St. Maarten's ambulance as per the request of the Hon. Minister of Health, Cornelius de Weever. Minister de Weever had requested an ambulance outpost in the Simpson Bay area in order to provide timely responses for medical emergencies to all the people, and visitors, in the Cole Bay, Simpson Bay, Maho, Mullet Bay and Cupe Coy areas.

The Arabian Taste

Mini Market & Liqueurshop

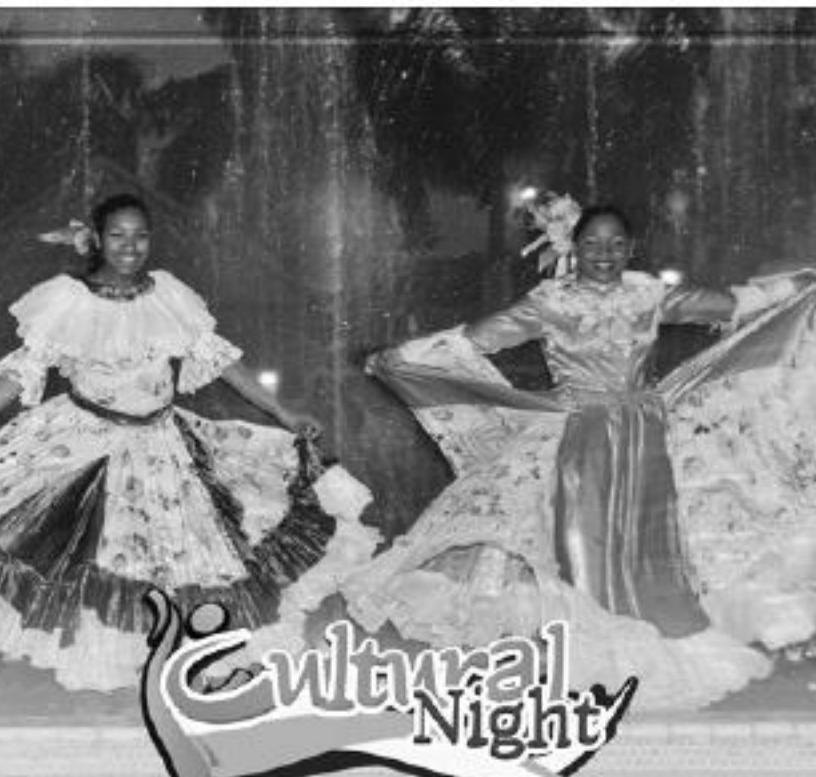
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Caribbean PAN NIGHT
Steel Pan Music Live on main stage

FRIDAY AT 7:00 PM



WALTZING WATER SHOW

EVERY NIGHT AT

1

1

1

1

7.30 pm 8.30 pm 9.30 pm 10.30 pm



WORLD NEWS

Boko Haram attack kills hundreds as Nigeria offers reward for girls

KANO (AFP) - A new Boko Haram massacre has killed hundreds in Nigeria's northeast, a senator said yesterday, as police offered \$300,000 dollars for information leading to the rescue of more than 200 schoolgirls held hostage by the Islamists.

The latest insurgent attack targeted the town of Gamboru Ngala on the border with Cameroon, where gunmen this week razed scores of buildings and fired on civilians as they tried to flee.

Area Senator Ahmed Zanna put the death toll at 300, citing information provided by locals, in an account supported by numerous residents.

Zanna said the town had been

left unguarded because the soldiers based there had been redeployed north towards Lake Chad in an effort to rescue more than 200 girls kidnapped by Boko Haram on April 14.

The shocking mass abduction has sparked global outrage and offers of help from the United States, Britain, France and China.

Nigeria's response to the kidnappings has been widely criticised, including by activists and parents of the hostages who say the military's search operation has been inept so far.

The police on Monday offered 50 million naira (\$300,000, 215,000 euros) for any information leading to the girls' rescue.

Beverly Hills demands Brunei sultan sell hotel

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Beverly Hills said yesterday it passed a resolution demanding the Sultan of Brunei sell his hotel in the posh US city, after he introduced a penal code incorporating Islamic sharia law.

Brunei's all-powerful Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah announced last week that he would push ahead with implementing sharia, despite criticism both at home and internationally.

An initial phase officially came into effect last Thursday, with a second phase including more stringent penalties, including the severing of limbs for theft and robbery, to begin later in the year.

Late next year, punishments such as death by stoning for offenses including sodomy and adultery will be introduced.

"The Beverly Hills City Council yesterday unanimously passed a resolution condemning the government of Brunei for a series of laws that impose extremely harsh penalties, including death by stoning for homosexuality and adultery," said a statement sent to AFP.

Bolkiah owns the historic Beverly Hills Hotel as well as the Bel-Air Hotel in Los Angeles through his company Dorchester Collection, which also has branches in London, Paris, Milan and Rome.

The city council said they will send the resolution to the State Department asking Washington to "take appropriate action to condemn the Brunei government's policies."

The United States has "relayed our concerns privately to the government of Brunei," State Department



spokeswoman Jen Psaki said Tuesday, but it will not follow a growing boycott of the Sultan's luxury hotel chain.

Beverly Hills' Mayor Lili Bosse called the new laws "shocking, inhumane."

"They must be met with a strong statement of support for human rights of the people of Brunei," she said.

The Dorchester Collection is reportedly owned by the Brunei Investment Agency, a sovereign wealth fund under the oil-rich sultanate's Ministry of Finance.

The sultan's support for sharia law has sparked rare domestic criticism of the fabulously wealthy ruler on the Muslim-majority country's active social media, and international condemnation including from the UN's human rights office.

But the sultan has defended the implementation of the law, meant to shore up Islam and guard the Southeast Asian country against outside influences.

NATO sees no sign of Ukraine Russian troop pullback

WARSAW (AFP) - NATO said yesterday it had seen no sign of Russian troops withdrawing from the border with Ukraine, despite President Vladimir Putin's claim they have been pulled back.

"On the claims that Russia is pulling back troops, I am not able to confirm that information -- we haven't seen any signs that Russia is withdrawing its troops," NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said in Warsaw.

Putin had said earlier that in response to Western concerns of a possible Ukraine invasion, Moscow had pulled troops back.

"We were told constantly about concerns over our troops near the Ukrainian border. We have pulled them back," Putin said.

"Today they are not at the Ukrainian border but in places of regular exercises, at training grounds," he said after meeting Swiss president and current OSCE chief Didier Burkhalter.

US and NATO officials esti-

mate Russia massed 40,000 troops on the border with Ukraine as the Kiev government battles pro-Kremlin militias.

Rasmussen yesterday also said NATO "will not hesitate to take further steps if necessary" to beef up defences on its eastern fringe.

"Those steps might include enhanced exercises, revised defence plans and a proper deployment," he said following talks with Poland's foreign and defence ministers.

As tensions with Russia over the Ukraine crisis flare, NATO military chief US General Philip Breedlove said Tuesday the alliance's build-up in Eastern Europe could become permanent.

The 28 members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization have responded to Russia's intervention in Ukraine by stepping up defences in Eastern Europe, sending warships, fighter jets and troops to the region.

The troop surge is scheduled to end on December 31.

Syria rebels evacuate 'capital of revolution' Homs



HOMS (AFP) -- Image grab taken from a video released by Syria Mubasher Network on May 7, 2014 allegedly shows the evacuation of a besieged opposition-held area in Syria's central city of Homs after a deal between the Syrian regime and the rebels was reached. The deal was reached as part of an exchange for a number of hostages being held by opposition fighters in the northern city of Aleppo. Once the Homs operation is complete, the evacuated areas are to be turned over to the government, which is expected to send in forces to sweep for mines and explosives. The evacuation began at around 10:00 am (0700 GMT), with three buses carrying civilians and fighters, some of them wounded, departing from the devastated Old City.

WORLD NEWS

Toronto mayor says rehab 'amazing'



OTTAWA (AFP) - Toronto Mayor Rob Ford told a Canadian newspaper yesterday that "rehab is amazing," adding that it's a lot like the football summer camp he attended as a child.

Ford, 44, took a leave of absence from city hall in the middle of his re-election campaign last week to enter rehab for

drug and alcohol abuse after another video surfaced showing him allegedly smoking crack recently.

The mayor described daily meetings with four to eight people, including "two doctors, a captain of industry and a professional athlete," and "then there is a meal before we have some one-on-one sessions."

He described learning to deal with the anger he has often directed at political opponents. "It's not an excuse to play the victim and it's not an excuse to drink," he said.

Ford said he is also coming to terms with the fallout of his substance abuse.

Ford burst into international headlines last year when an alleged drug dealer tried to sell a video of the mayor smoking crack to media outlets in Canada and the United States.

At first, Ford denied using crack cocaine but later acknowledged he had smoked the drug while in a "drunken stupor" but insisted he was not an addict. Since then Ford has been filmed numerous times in public behaving erratically.

Toronto City Council stripped the mayor of most of his powers in November over his misconduct

Report: Three dead after fire at home owned by Blake

TAMPA (AFP) - Three people were found dead yesterday morning after a fire at a Florida home owned by retired US tennis star James Blake, media reports said.

The Tampa Tribune and WTSP television reported that firefighters responded to a call that the mansion inside the exclusive Avila Golf and Country Club was ablaze.

The newspaper reported that the home was being rented out to others by Blake, who retired last year, and that Blake was at his home in Connecticut when the fire took place.

Identities of the victims have not been released by police, who also have not said if the blaze was the suspected cause of death in each case.

The cause of the fire also remains under investigation. Structural damage might keep investigators from entering the structure to search for evidence until Thursday, police said.

Blake, 34, won 10 ATP titles in a 14-year career that ended last August when he called it quits at the US Open. He was ranked as high as fourth in the world in 2006.

Jailed Venezuela opposition leader in court today

CARACAS (AFP) - Jailed Venezuelan opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez is to appear today at a hearing that could see him freed after 70 days detention for allegedly inciting deadly violence during anti-government protests.

At least 41 people have died and more than 700 have been injured since students and other opponents of the leftist government of President Nicolas Maduro took to the streets in February to protest rampant crime, runaway inflation and shortages of basic goods.

The arrest of Lopez and other opposition leaders have fueled the ongoing protests, and their release was one of the conditions set by the opposition in talks aimed at ending the crisis. Those negotiations continued behind closed doors yesterday.

The latest hearing for Lopez "will be held at 10 am (1430 GMT) today" in Caracas, defense lawyer Juan Carlos Gutierrez confirmed to AFP.

"We hope that the prosecutor's charges will not be accepted... that Lopez will be freed," Gutierrez added.

A Harvard-educated economist who is leader of the Popular Will party, Lopez has been held in a military prison since he was arrested on February 18 in the midst of a massive opposition protest rally.

He was formally charged with inciting violence, arson, damage to property and conspiracy.

The Democratic Unity (MUD) opposition coalition said in a statement, the outcome of the hearing will either "strengthen or further deteriorate the rule of law."

The defense will seek to rule out some of the evidence presented by prosecutors against Lopez.

Criticizing the government "is a legitimate democratic exercise," especially from an opposition politician, Gutierrez said, summarizing the defense strategy.

Lopez's lawyers also plan to argue that "there is no direct relationship between Lopez's words and the way things turned out," such as damage to the prosecutor's or injuries to police patrols" during a February protest. They insist Lopez merely called for "peaceful protests."



Leopoldo Lopez

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HEALTH & LIVING

Can coffee protect our eyesight?



New York - Researchers from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, recently published their findings in the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.

We all know the main ingredient in coffee as caffeine - the stimulant that gives us that boost. But according to the research team, including senior author Chang Y. Lee, green coffee beans (raw coffee) only contain 1% caffeine.

However, each raw coffee bean contains around 7-9% chlorogenic acid (CGA) - an antioxidant that has been associated with many health benefits, such as weight loss and reduction of blood pressure.

Past studies have also indicated that CGA may be a powerful neuroprotectant, and there has been great interest in identifying neuroprotective compounds that block hypoxia - deprivation of oxygen in areas of the body.

Researchers found that coffee extract and CGA protected mice against retinal degeneration.

The retina - a thin layer at the back of the eye that is made of light-sensitive cells and other nerve cells that are responsible for receiving and organizing visual

information - is prone to hypoxia.

"The retina is one of the most metabolically active tissues in the body, consuming oxygen more rapidly than any other tissues, including the brain," the researchers explain.

"Therefore, it is susceptible to a variety of diseases caused by oxidative stress, including age-related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and glaucoma - all of which can lead to partial or complete blindness."

The investigators were interested to see whether coffee, particularly CGA, may prevent hypoxia and overall degeneration of the retina in mice.

They found that both CGA and coffee extract reduced RGC death in the mice by preventing down-regulation of Thy-1 - a cell surface protein.

Earlier this year, Medical News today reported on a study suggesting that drinking two or more cups of coffee a day may reduce liver cirrhosis death risk by 66%, while other research finds that a high coffee intake may help against prostate cancer.

But not everyone believes coffee

Researchers identify new genetic risk factor for premature birth

California - A new genetic risk factor has been discovered for premature birth, say scientists at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine.

The risk factor is related to a gene that codes for a protein that helps immune cells identify and attack group B Streptococcus (GBS) bacteria.

"Pregnant women are universally screened for these bacteria during pregnancy and administered antibiotics intravenously during labor if they test positive to protect the infant from infection," says co-author Dr. Victor Nizet, professor of pediatrics and pharmacy at San Diego School of Medicine.

"Our research may explain why some women and their infants are at higher risk of acquiring GBS infections than others," he adds.

GBS is found in the vagina or lower gastrointestinal tract of 15-20% of healthy women. However, this bacteria can cause dangerous, life-threatening infections - such as sepsis or meningitis - in premature babies.

Dr. Nizet and colleagues investigated two proteins that bind to GBS. But while one of these proteins, Siglec-14, activates the attack on the pathogen, the other, Siglec-5, suppresses immune response to the pathogen.

The researchers found that the attack-signaling protein, Siglec-14, is missing in some people, and



fetuses that do not have this protein are more at risk of premature birth. The scientists think the premature birth risk could be increased because the immune response to GBS is imbalanced in the fetuses.

An interesting anomaly of GBS is that it is not found in any other animal except humans, including chimpanzees with whom we share 99% of our protein sequences.

A 2006 study conducted by the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine identified a genetic variant that the researchers suggested accounts for the higher rates of premature birth experienced by black women in the US, compared with white women.

The Virginia team found that a change in a single nucleotide in the SERPINH1 gene reduced the amount of collagen produced in the membranes that surround the fetus. As collagen lends strength to these membranes, its absence makes them more prone to rupturing. This genetic variant was found to be more common among people with African ancestry.

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Ireland's smoking ban, 10 years later

Dublin - Visualize an Irish pub: there's likely fiddles, pints, and smoke -- and lots of it.

While that may be a reality in some Irish pubs abroad, that hasn't been entirely the case in Ireland for the last decade.

March 29 marked the 10-year anniversary of a workplace smoking ban in Ireland, extending to pubs and restaurants. Ireland was the first country worldwide to enact such a sweeping ban. The initiative made smoking in enclosed workplaces

illegal, punishable by a fine of up to 3,000 euros, or about \$4,200.

The ban has spawned copycat laws across the globe. Norway and New Zealand followed that same year, as did Uganda. Now, dozens of countries from Brazil to Bhutan have joined Ireland in creating a nationwide workplace smoking ban -- the United States not among them. Russia will join the list in June.

Irish Minister for Health Dr. James Reilly has

hailed the ban as a success, stating the proof is in the numbers.

"Recent research found 3,726 fewer smoking related deaths than would have been expected if the smoking ban had not been brought in," said Reilly, who lost his father and brother to smoking-related illnesses, in a statement. "This is indisputable evidence that the ban is saving lives and improving our overall health as a nation."

Ireland's National Tobacco Control Office says the smoking prevalence rate decreased more than 7% since the ban, dropping from 28.86% in March 2004 to 21.48% in December 2013.



ENTERTAINMENT

Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary Mr. & Mrs Frank!



Oranjestad – Aruba is amongst others known as a honeymoon destination for numerous couples. However, many couples choose Aruba to celebrate their wedding anniversaries as well.

Recently, Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Geraldine Frank from New York visited the One happy island of Aruba to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank have been visiting the island for over 30 times to spend their vacation either alone or with their children. They have so many reasons to return to Aruba, as they enjoy the friendliness of the locals, the culinary variety, the activities and the safety of the island, to mention a few.

This time, their stay was a very special one, as they celebrated their wedding anniversary with their 3 daughters at the Riu Palace Aruba Resort & Casino.

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On the picture, the happy couple with their gift basket and flowers.

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'Mighty Morphin Power Rangers' gets new movie turn



The Dutch entry for the European Song Festival qualified for Saturday's final in Tuesday night's first heat in Copenhagen.

The song Calm After The Storm, performed by the duo The Common Linnets – made up of country singer Ilse de Lange and Dutch Motown signing Waylon – competed against 16 other countries.

The top 10 in each heat qualify for the final on May 10.

It is the second time in a row that the Netherlands has qualified for the final after years of drawing a blank.

Last year Anouk reached the final with Birds.

Calm After The Storm is a blue grass country number performed by the duo on guitars in an intimate setting.

Emma Stone Showed Up To The Met Ball As A 'Frozen' Princess

It's not a secret that we're more than a little obsessed with one Emma Stone. Girlfriend totally killed a Blues Traveler song while playing with Jimmy Fallon, let real-life boyfriend Andrew Garfield literally gnaw on her chin on national TV on "Saturday Night Live" last weekend and she's brought the sass to the class party in both "The Amazing Spider-Man" and "The Amazing Spider-Man 2" as Gwen Stacy.





SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Pandora tests advertiser-promoted stations

OAKLAND (AFP) - Popular Internet radio service Pandora on Wednesday began dabbling with boosting revenue by letting advertisers "promote" stations listeners might like.

"Promoted Stations" are being woven into suggested listening options for about 10 percent of Pandora's approximately 76 million monthly users, according to the Oakland, California-based streaming radio star.

"We are relentlessly focused on advertising

solutions that enhance both the listener and advertiser experiences," Pandora Media vice president of digital advertising Lizzie Widholm said in a release.

Promoted Stations entice listeners with digital content put together in collaboration with advertisers who then have opportunities to woo Pandora users with brands or messages, according to Widholm.

Advertisers taking part in the test phase include

Toyota, Kleenex, Skechers, StubHub and Taco Bell.

Pandora has won fans of its service for streaming music to Internet-linked devices and is working on boosting revenue to cover song royalties and other costs.

A US judge in March handed Pandora a partial victory in a royalties dispute with music publishers and songwriters.

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Check Out The
Crazy iPhone Ripoff
That Just Came From
Chinese Smartphone
Maker Huawei



Chinese smartphone maker Huawei introduced a new smartphone yesterday called the Ascend P7. On the outside, it looks a lot like every other smartphone out there.

But the operating system, a redesigned version of Android, looks like Huawei picked apart Apple's new iOS design pixel by pixel. It has the same "flat" design scheme with bright colors that Apple introduced last year with iOS 7.

Huawei isn't alone though. Both HTC and Samsung introduced similar flat designs in their new flagship phones.

APPLE'S PR CHIEF LEAVING AFTER 18 YEARS AT THE COMPANY

Katie Cotton, Apple's communications leader, confirmed that she's leaving, telling, "This is hard for me ... Apple is a part of my heart."

During her nearly two decades at Apple, Cotton served as gatekeeper to company co-founder Steve Jobs and current CEO Tim Cook, and guided the media narrative around pretty much everything from the iMac to the iPad. She's long been among the company's most powerful executives and played a key role in shaping the mystique and exclusivity surrounding the Apple brand.



ECONOMY

Master Blenders, Mondelez tie up in coffee capsule war



THE HAGUE (AFP) - Leading Dutch coffee supplier D.E Master Blenders is to merge the coffee arm of US food giant Mondelez into a new group to fight for market share in the booming capsule sector, the two firms announced yesterday. The deal will see the Dutch blender's best known coffee brand Douwe Egberts team up with Mondelez's Jacobs and Carte Noir to take on other giants in the market like Nestle. Under the deal, Master Blenders, owned by a German investment group, will pay \$5.0 billion (3.5 billion euros) in cash. Mondelez, which reported a profit plunge on Wednesday, will also end up with 49.0 percent of the new player, which they said would be a world leader. This new player in the coffee sector will be called Jacobs Douwe Egberts (JDE) and will be based in the Netherlands. This strategy will "create the world's leading pure... coffee company," the two groups said.



Mauro Carlos, in charge of the cocoa sector of the farm, shows a cocoa pod of the CCN51 variety at the Denise farm, near the village of Las Mercedes, 260 km southwest of Quito, on May 2, 2014. The CCN51 variety of cacao, resistant to plagues though sour tasting, could be the next star in the market and its growing has shot up in the Ecuadorean coast. (AFP PHOTO)

Yellen: US economy to grow solidly after winter freeze

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US economy is on track for "solid growth" in the second quarter after the winter freeze, US Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen said yesterday.

But with the housing industry slowing and unemployment still high, the economy still needs "a high degree of monetary accommodation," she told a congressional committee.

And, she suggested, the Ukraine crisis poses a risk to the economy, as would intensified financial stress in emerging market economies.

In mostly sunny testimony to the Joint Economic Committee of Congress, Yellen said the growth stall in the first quarter stemmed from mostly transitory factors, "including the effects of the unusually cold and snowy winter weather."

"With the harsh winter weather behind us, many recent indicators suggest that a rebound in spending and production is already under way," she said.

Yellen said labor market conditions have improved "appreciably," but that they "are still far from satisfactory," despite the pickup in hiring last month and the fall in the unemployment rate to 6.3 percent.

Repeating a concern she has voiced since becoming Fed chair in February, she pointed to the still-high levels of long-term unemployed and those forced to work part-time because full-time jobs are not available.

"Many Americans who want a job are still unemployed," she said.

She said she expects economic activity to expand "somewhat faster" this year than last, helped by less fighting in Washington over government spending, improved household wealth, and firmer global economic growth.

But she made clear that the Fed's monetary policy -- its ultra-low interest rate stance and its slow drawdown of its bond-buying stimulus -- are still appropriate and that policymakers do not foresee raising interest rates until mid- or late 2015.

She pointed out that even as the taper of the quantitative easing (QE) program goes on -- falling from \$85 billion in December to \$45 billion starting this month -- the Fed continues to buy bonds from the market.

Yellen stressed that the buying helps the economy by putting "significant" downward pressure on longer-term interest rates.

And she reiterated the Fed view that inflation remains tame and is not likely to reach the Fed's 2.0 percent target in the near future.

HP steps up in cloud with \$1 bn investment

NEW YORK (AFP) - US computer giant Hewlett Packard unveiled an expanded offering of Internet "cloud" services on Wednesday, pledging to invest \$1 billion over the next two years.

The California tech giant said it was launching "HP Helion," described as "a portfolio of cloud products and services that enable organizations to build, manage and consume workloads in hybrid IT environments."

"Customer challenges today extend beyond cloud. They include how to manage, control and scale applications in a hybrid

environment that spans multiple technology approaches," said Martin Fink, HP's chief technology officer.

"HP Helion provides the solutions and expertise customers need to select the right deployment model for their needs and obtain the greatest return for their investment."

HP last week announced an alliance with Taiwan's Foxconn to produce servers optimized for the Internet cloud.

The cloud is one of the areas of focus for HP chief executive Meg Whitman, who has led a major reorganization of the company amid a shift away from personal computers.



Current as of: 05/07/2014	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.61	1.63	1.65
Britain	GBP	2.96	3.01	3.07
Switzerland	CHF	203.45	204.17	204.97
Netherlands	EUR	245.80	248.05	250.54
Sweden	SEK	26.43	27.15	27.95
Denmark	DKK	32.28	33.00	33.80
Norway	NOK	29.19	29.91	30.71
Japan	JPY	173.49	175.08	176.83
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Picture shows founder-director of Bandhan Chandra Shekhar Ghosh poses inside his office in Kolkata. Chandra Shekhar Ghosh is a man in a hurry since he beat India's financial titans to win a prized banking licence for his microfinance firm that lends to poor borrowers. The founder of Bandhan Financial Services must transform his microfinance company into a bank in just 18 months to serve India's millions of "unbanked poor" under the licence terms. Just 35% of adults have bank accounts, a rate the central bank calls "pathetic". Ghosh aims to open nearly 700 bank branches in 22 states and start with at least 10 million savings accounts.



ECONOMY

A Killer Fungus Is Devastating Coffee Crops Across Central America

A fungus sweeping across Central America is destroying coffee crops and causing exports to plunge.

The "coffee rust" fungus, also called la roya, has been thriving in recent years because of climate change, experts say. Higher temperatures across Central America have allowed the fungus to grow at higher altitudes.

Growers have tried spraying fungicide on their crops to combat the coffee rust, but it hasn't worked.

The fungus can also zap coffee beans of their flavor, according to experts. A coffee buyer said the coffee she tasted in Honduras was "very underdeveloped" and void of its usual flavors.

The coffee rust affected local economies in Central America as big farmers hire fewer

workers to pick ripe coffee cherries, small farmers go into debt, merchants sell less, kids drop out of school to work for their parents, and landless migrant workers are paid even less.

"If you frame this in terms of everyone that is connected to the economics of coffee, it's a very serious problem," Roberto de Michele, a specialist at the Inter-American Development Bank who is based in Guatemala City.

Crops have been devastated by the fungus — Bloomberg reports that about 40% of Guatemala's 2013-2014 crop could be lost to the fungus. Guatemala's coffee harvest shrank 15% last year, according to The Times.

The fungus could drive up coffee prices across the globe.



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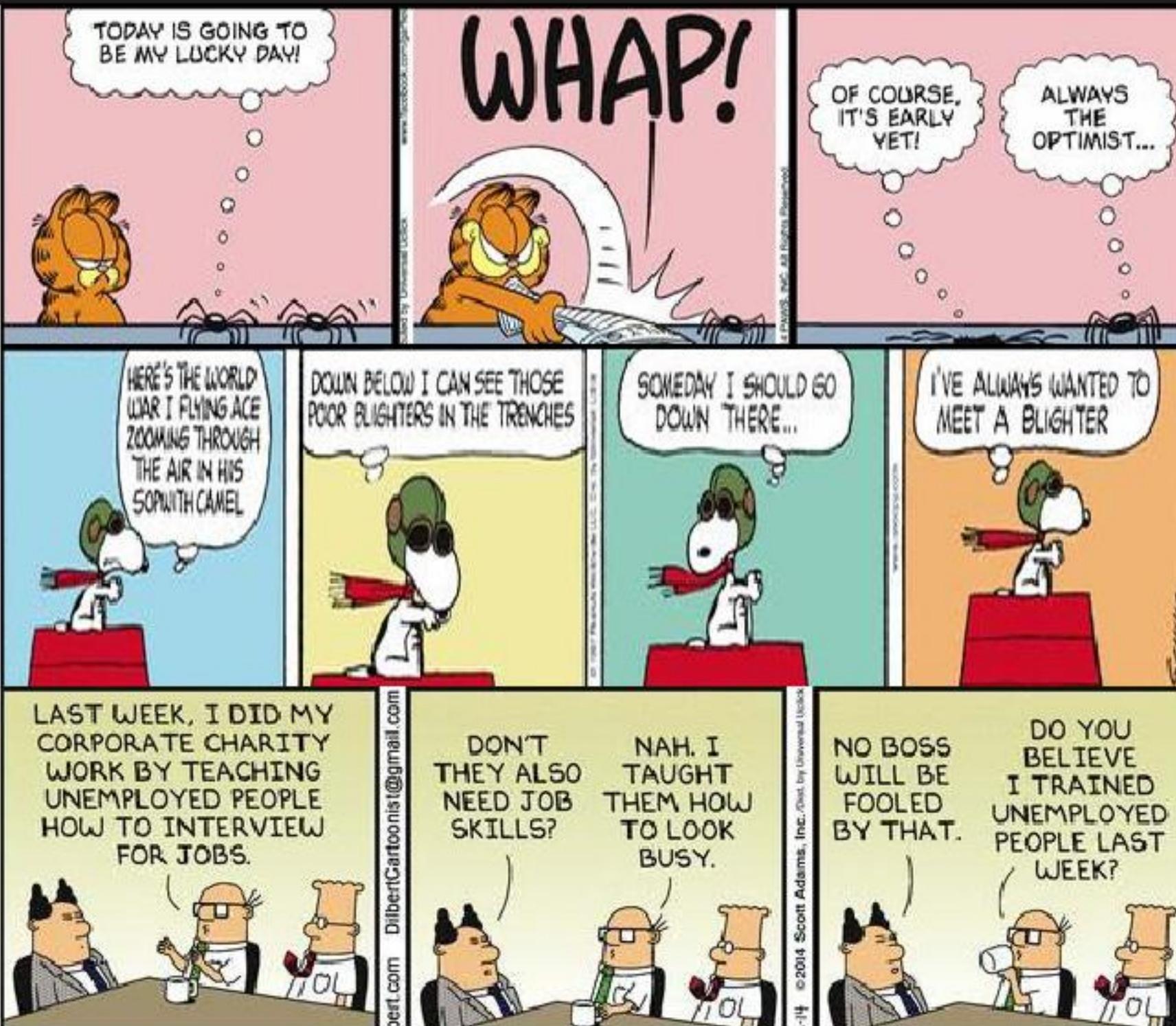
Budget has a fleet of 250 autos on Aruba, ranging from subcompact to authentic Jeep Wrangler® hardtop 4X4 or the stylish Toyota Rav 4, for exploring Aruba's outback in air-conditioned comfort. Their standard Toyota Yaris, the most popular model, is known for quality and dependability. Each year, they refresh 25% of their fleet and retire the older cars. Compared to the U.S., car rentals are quite affordable on Aruba, with the third party liability insurance included in the rental rates, as required by law.

Budget's head office is in Camacuri, not far from the airport, but they maintain an outlet right at the airport and another conveniently located in the Arawak Gardens in Palm Beach, an easy stroll from all the Palm Beach resorts. Budget will provide free transportation to their Arawak Gardens outlet from any hotel, and return you to your door when turning in your car.

A Toyota Yaris rents for \$174 for the week; there is an additional airport concession fee to have a car available immediately on arrival, but this is balanced out by the cost of roundtrip fares to most resorts,



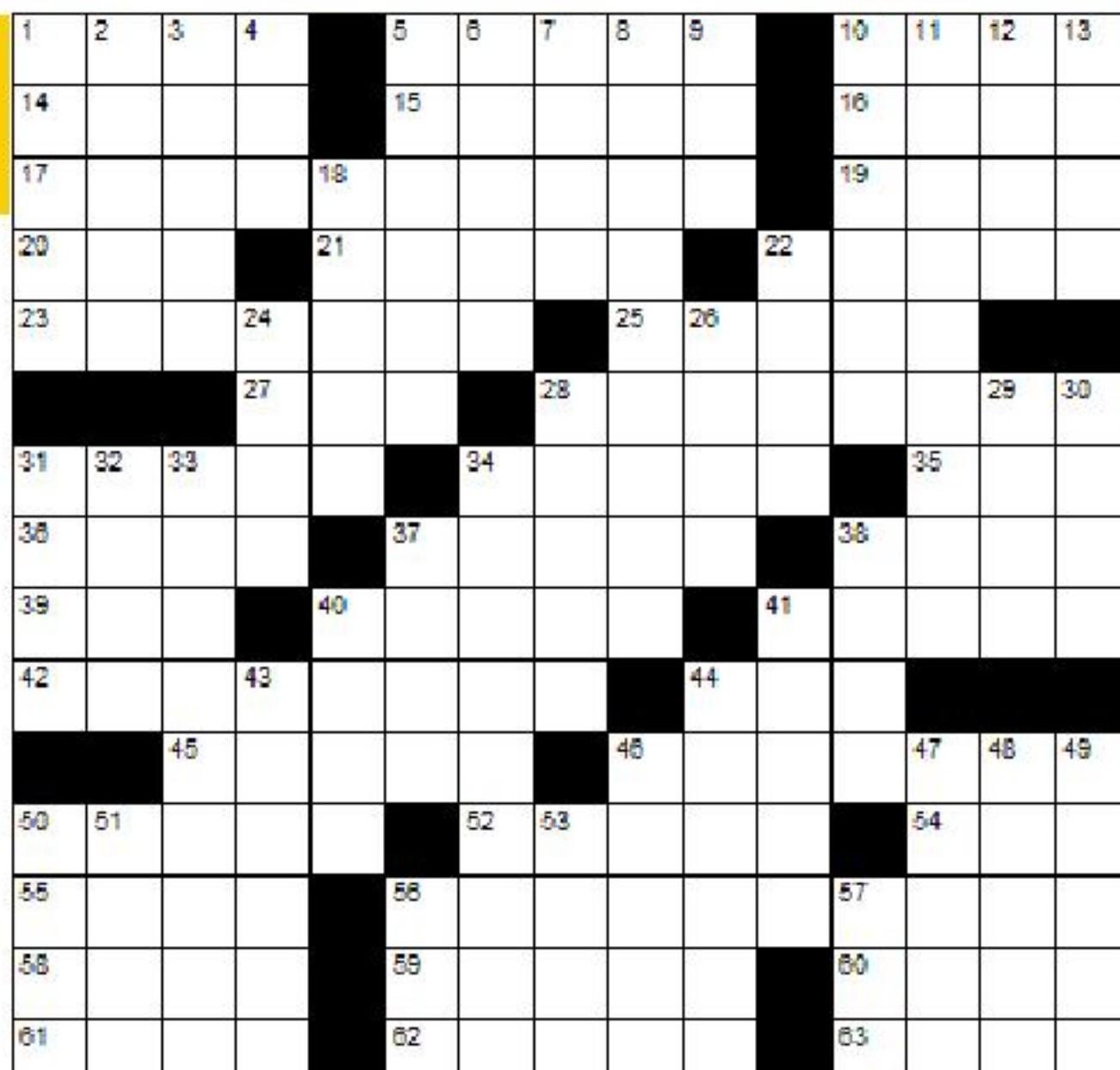
COMICS



CROSS WORDS

ACROSS

1. Russian emperor
5. Grave marker
10. At the peak of
14. To fancy (archaic)
15. Toss
16. Murres
17. Illogical
19. Deliver a tirade
20. 16 in Roman numerals
21. Beginning
22. Passes out
23. Adolescent
25. Successors
27. Commercials
28. Signalman
31. Fuzzy fruits
34. Loose fitting cloak
35. Gorilla
36. False god
37. Jails
38. Anagram of "Ties"
39. Prefix meaning "Modern"
40. Tribes
41. Verify
42. Dawdling
44. Fitting
45. Cleansing agents
46. Greenery
50. Offspring
52. Choice
54. Crimson
55. Rate
56. Nutritious
58. Varieties
59. Donkeys
60. Initial wager
61. Where a bird lives



DOWN

1. Between
2. Wait on
3. Eagle's nest
4. Ribonucleic acid
5. Insect wounds
6. Not these
7. Sea eagle
8. Abhorrences
9. Hole-making tool
10. Dawn goddess
11. Interpret
12. Pig sound
13. Taps
18. Batrachians
22. Brass component
24. Found on a finger
26. Auspices
28. Seeking damages
29. Sweeping story
30. Stink
31. Warm-hearted
32. Notion
33. Bags of wool
34. Switch
37. Radar signal
38. Outbuilding
40. Greenish blue
41. Remedies
43. Not highest
44. Death
46. An small olive-grey bird
47. Pee
48. Leases
49. Borders
50. Whirl
51. Wan
53. Twice-baked bread
56. Short sleep
57. An unskilled actor



Important Numbers

GENERAL INFORMATION..... 118

EMERGENCY

Police - Fire Department -	911
Ambulance	911
Coast Guard	913

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Medical Center San Nicolas	524-8833

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Sudoku

9		7	1					2
	2	5	4					
				3	9	6		
7	6	9						
				8				
					4	6	7	
8		2	4					
				6	5	4		
5			9	2				8

SOLUTION

3	6	2	1	4	5	7	8	9
9	8	7	5	3	6	1	2	4
6	4	8	2	7	9	3	5	1
5	3	1	8	6	4	2	7	9
8	7	9	4	1	5	6	3	2
2	5	6	3	8	7	9	1	4
7	9	4	6	2	1	5	8	3
4	1	3	7	9	5	6	2	8
1	2	8	5	3	4	7	6	9

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9. A number is never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9.



SPORTS

The Pacers need more from George Hill



By Ricky O'Donnell | @SBN_Ricky

Each passing week brings a new bit of drama to the Indiana Pacers. From Roy Hibbert's "selfish dudes" comment to a fight between Lance Stephenson and Evan Turner during the last practice of the regular season, Indiana has unraveled in very public fashion since the All-Star break. It only took one half in their series opener against the Washington Wizards for Charles Barkley to say they were done. There's a real sense that the writing is on the wall for the Pacers.

Nevertheless, they still have plenty of time to save their season. It starts in Game 2 on Wednesday, where Indiana needs a victory to avoid falling into an 0-2 deficit before the series moves back to Washington.

Hibbert has received the majority of the blame for Indiana's swift second half collapse, and deservedly so. Whatever is wrong with Hibbert, be it physical or mental, he can't go

through entire playoff games with zero points and zero rebounds and expect his team to win. But there are other symptoms that play into Indiana's woes.

They start with point guard George Hill. When the Pacers began the season 25-5 and looked like the best team in basketball, it's because they were playing an inside-out style that emphasized getting touches for Hibbert and David West on the block. The Pacers have considered themselves a "smash mouth" team since the moment Frank Vogel was hired, but they've gotten away from that as their season has started to spiral out of control.

Hill is a good player who brings size, shooting and defense to the table, but needs to be a better distributor to get the Pacers out of this funk. If it doesn't happen soon, this nightmare stretch for Indiana will be the only thing anyone

Football: Real's title hopes dashed by Valladolid draw

MADRID (AFP) - Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti doesn't believe Cristiano Ronaldo suffered a serious injury when he was forced off inside 10 minutes of his side's 1-1 draw away to Valladolid on Wednesday.

The World Player of the Year has only recently returned to action due to a knee and then a hamstring problems.

However, Ancelotti played down suggestions his participation in the Champions League final against Atletico Madrid on May 24 could now be at risk.

The Italian also has concerns over the fitness of defender Pepe and Angel di Maria for Lisbon as they both finished the game with injury problems on a night when Real's La Liga title hopes were all but ended.

"I don't think Cristiano's problem is a big thing, but Pepe didn't end the game in good shape and we will see with Di Maria, although that shouldn't be too serious either," said Ancelotti.

Real now trail leaders Atletico Madrid by four points and are a point adrift of Barcelona with two games to play and will be mathematically out of the title race should Atletico beat Malaga at home on

MADRID (AFP) - Real Madrid's La Liga title hopes were all but ended as they conceded five minutes from time to draw 1-1 away to Valladolid on Wednesday.

Sergio Ramos' free-kick had given Madrid the lead 10 minutes before half-time, but Humberto Osorio's late header rounded off a horrible evening for the visitors as Cristiano Ronaldo also hobbled off with an injury.

The draw leaves Real four points behind leaders Atletico Madrid and a point adrift of Barcelona with two games to play.

Real will be mathematically out of the title race should Atletico win at home to Malaga on Sunday and Atletico could be crowned champions for the first time in 18 years should Barcelona also drop points away to Elche.

"It is a shame that with two games to go and all the effort we have put in that it is almost impossible to win the league," Ramos told Canal Plus.

"We failed to kill the game off, but it wasn't for the want of trying. The league is practically lost, but whilst mathematically it is still possible Real Madrid is obliged to fight."

Red Fish; Best Option for Fresh Seafood in a Casual Ambiance.

Our team of taste-testers at The Morning News have discovered a surprising island treat within easy reach of the island's principal resort areas.

Redfish, located within the new Orange Plaza Mall, on the Sasaki highway next to the turn off for the "low rise" resorts, is an authentic "fish shack" with a charming, casual ambiance and al fresco dining.

Herbie Merryweather, founder of the Driftwood in Oranjestad, and owner of the deep sea charter boat, is a fanatic about fish. If you have that same appreciation for the sweet and singular flavor of fresh Caribbean seafood, than you will be very pleased with a meal at Redfish.

This is casual dining, and you will likely end up eating with your fingers.

The menu is, for the most part, the real deal, fresh grouper, or snapper (Piska Cora in Papiamento, or Redfish) and shrimp. There are chicken and steak dishes to accommodate land-lubbers, but make no mistake, you are on Aruba, a Caribbean Fish Paradise.

Too many restaurants on Aruba have taken to serving frozen farm fish filets, claiming it is grouper or snapper, but you know you are getting fresh, locally caught fish when they are served in the steaks like they are at Redfish. Delicately coated with a sprinkling of flour and herbs, they are flash fried and the fish is moist and incredibly

tender. The mild Creole sauce served on the side is one of the best we have ever tasted, and they serve some extra Papaya Pica for those that like to spice it up a bit.

Portions are served by the pound and half pound, with your choice of whatever is fresh that day. We selected a pound of grouper and half pound of snapper, which were served with an ample supply of traditional island side dishes, and it was more than enough for three hungry people. Combination platters of fish and shrimp, great for nibbling and watching a sporting event on their giant plasma screen, are also available.

The best part? The prices. Geared to a local trade, (and you will find islanders there in force for lunch) a half pound fish platter with sides is \$10.85: a full pound, meant to be shared by two, with double the side dishes, is \$20. Not only that, but Redfish is an easy, pleasant walk from all the resorts at Manchebo Beach, and the service staff are very pleasant and eager to please.

Open from noon until 10:00 PM, Redfish is providing something that has certainly been lacking close to the resort areas, an authentic taste of fresh caught fish, with a distinctive island flavor and ambiance.

Closed on Mondays, this is a highly recommended place to visit.

Local food, Local prices!



SPORTS

Formula One set to race in Barcelona for the Spanish Grand Prix

BARCELONA-- Formula One is racing in Barcelona this weekend for the Spanish Grand Prix.

Mercedes drivers Nico Rosberg and Lewis Hamilton will continue their march toward an F1 World Championship, while Fernando Alonso will try to repeat as Spanish Grand Prix champion.

The Circuit de Catalunya hosts the fifth round of the 2014 FIA Formula One World Championship as teams and drivers arrive in Barcelona for the Spanish Grand Prix. After four 'flyaway' races F1 returns to the comfortable familiarity of trucks and motorhomes for the start of the European season.

Barcelona is famed as a bellwether circuit: cars that race well here are expected to race well in any and all conditions. The logic behind this is that the Circuit de Catalunya provides a well-rounded examination of every aspect of car design, requiring maximum downforce, strong power delivery, excellent traction and handling.

Particularly interesting is how

Pirelli's Hard

and Medium compounds will cope with the conditions. The Circuit de Catalunya has a combination of high-energy corners, an abrasive surface and only one long straight on which tyres can cool. In warm weather degradation is expected to be high, with the left side of the car particularly vulnerable. While the tyre manufacturer does not predict a repeat of last year's four-stop strategies, the powerful new cars are nevertheless expected to work tyres hard.

Mercedes arrive at the Spanish Grand Prix in ominous form. With a clean sweep of pole positions and victories, they are very much the team to beat in 2014. Lewis Hamilton has been the driver to watch so far this year, winning the last three races – but it is team-mate Nico Rosberg who leads the Championship.

Barcelona, however, is the race at which teams traditionally reveal their first major upgrade of the season. Though 2014 has seen a constant stream of traffic between

the factories and the circuit, with upgrades appearing on a daily basis, most teams have circled this race for something more substantial. While Mercedes may hold too much of an advantage for the moment, down the order there is much potential for movement.

FAST FACTS

The F1 World Championship Spanish Grand Prix has been held at the Circuit de Catalunya every year since the circuit first opened in 1991. The race has also been held at Jerez (1986-'90), Jarama (1968, '70, '72, '74, 1976-'79, 1981), Montjuic (1969, '71, '73, '75) and the Pedralbes Street Circuit (1951, '54).

Barcelona is the most familiar circuit for F1 teams – but for the first time this century, they arrive for the Spanish Grand Prix without pre-season testing data from the Circuit de Catalunya – this being the first time it has not featured as a winter testing venue.

Jenson Button holds the record for the number of test kilometres completed at this circuit; 34,706km. The record for most days testing completed, however, belongs to David Coulthard with 118.

Alonso is the only Spanish winner of the F1 World Championship Spanish Grand Prix. Alonso took victory last year for Ferrari, using a four-stop strategy to advance from his third-row grid slot.



CIRCUIT DATA: CIRCUIT DE CATALUNYA

Length of lap: 4.655km

Lap record: 1:21.670

(Kimi Räikkönen, Ferrari, 2008)

Total number of race laps: 66

Total race distance: 307.104km

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Former NASCAR driver Jeremy Mayfield tells his side of drug story



It's time to come back. That's what Jeremy Mayfield's website says, anyway. The former NASCAR driver was suspended indefinitely from the series in 2009 for allegedly violating NASCAR's substance abuse policy.

Earlier this month, Mayfield launched a website with a video telling his side of the story.

It was widely reported that the positive drug test was because of the use of methamphetamines. Mayfield disputes this.

According to Mayfield, his suspension stemmed from the use of the drug Adderall, which was prescribed by his doctor after he was diagnosed with attention deficit disorder, and an allergy medicine.

After his suspension, Mayfield said he refused to enter NASCAR's "Road to Recovery" program; instead, he tried to fight the accusations with a lawyer.

"As soon as we started to fight back, that's when it turned into meth," he said. "It was amphetamines, amphetamines, amphetamines and then as soon as we got an attorney it was methamphetamines."

Mayfield goes on to insinuate that NASCAR tarnished his reputation, and now it's time for him to take it back.

SPORTS

Centro Bario Brazil Taekwondo Foundation “Train Hard, Fight Smart” team ready for the 6th Gold Coast Taekwondo Cup

ORANJESTAD – On Monday, Clifford Rasmijn of the Brazil Taekwondo Foundation chose the athletes for his team who will compete in the 6th Gold Coast Taekwondo Cup to take on May 17 in the Centro di Barrio Brazil. Clifford, who attended a 10-days camp training in Mexico, already started changing the training pattern by also giving athletes of other clubs the chance to compete. Now the team, “Train Hard Fight Smart” is more than ready for the upcoming challenge.

The team has 13 athletes; from the C to the A team. They are: John Liendo, Adam Liendo, Leonard Phillips, Danon Delamore, Iryaahim Delamore, Jyaamhur Delamore, Jendrique Gumbs, Joshua Klabér, Záhyon Klabér, Jourde Klabér, Rasheed Lowe, Hakeem Loweandy Justin Arrindell.

This team will also compete for the Best of the Best 2014 classification.



Golf: McIlroy confident heading into Players

PONTE VEDRA BEACH (AFP) - Rory McIlroy tees it up in the US PGA Tour's flagship Players Championship brimming with confidence but also sporting a series of cuts on his boyish 25-year-old face.

McIlroy had a close encounter on Tuesday with bushes while playing a social round with his close friends Mitchell Tweedy and Ricky McCormick at the exclusive Bears Club.

The double Major winner, who has cuts on his lip and the right side of his face, had raised eyebrows in deciding not to play a practice round at TPC Sawgrass and opted not to do a formal pre-event media conference.

However he surprised officials on Wednesday afternoon by playing the back nine with Tweedy and McCormick as on-course company.

McIlroy is returning to competition after finishing with a share of eighth place in the Wells Fargo Championship at Quail Hollow last week, his seventh top-10 finish in 10 events this year.

“I took Monday off after my birthday and the Wells Fargo on Sunday and then did a good day’s work on Tuesday at the Bears Club,” McIlroy told AFP.

“I had all intentions of then flying up here at 5 pm yesterday (Tuesday), but I thought it would be nice to spend another night in my own bed.”

McIlroy will tee it up on Sawgrass’s Stadium course with the added confidence of sharing eighth here a year ago, and after missing the halfway cut in the three prior years.

“I finally figured out last year how to play this golf course and not let it frustrate me,” said McIlroy, who added that the course is playing softer than he had ever experienced it.

He also said concerns over poor spots on the 11th and 12th greens seem overblown.

“I heard John Rollins say that for \$10 million that he’d putt over muddy greens and I totally agree.”



NHL: Blues extend Hitchcock coaching deal to next year

SAINT LOUIS (AFP) - The St. Louis Blues extended the contract of coach Ken Hitchcock for next season on Wednesday, 10 days after the team was ousted from the National Hockey League playoffs.

Hitchcock guided the Blues to a club-record 52 triumphs last season and the third-best record in the Western Conference, but St. Louis was eliminated by the Chicago Blackhawks in the opening round of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Hitchcock ranks seventh on the NHL’s all-time win list and second among active coaches with 657 regular-season triumphs against 405 losses with 178 draws or overtime losses with the Blues, Philadelphia and Columbus.

The 62-year-old Canadian won the Stanley Cup as a coach with Dallas in 1999 and was an assistant coach for the Canadian Winter Olympic hockey squad of NHL stars that won gold at Sochi last February.

Hitchcock is 124-55-20 with the Blues in the regular season and was named the NHL Coach of the Year in 2012.



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